LANDS AND FORESTS
TECHNICAL NOTE

1989 DEER HARVEST REPORT

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Under a new data collection program the deer harvest figures, starting in 1989, are direct counts of deer brought to registration stations.

Harvest figures obtained in this manner will be a known minimum kill, unbiased by success-rate reporting as was the case with past kill figures. Although the resulting kill figure will be considerably below previous figures collected by report card return, they are considered a much more reliable indicator of harvest trends and responses to situations.

Deer data enthusiasts should be aware of this when attempting to compare past kill figures with those of 1989 and later. Valid comparisons may be made from this year onward, compliance rates, however, are expected to increase as the new program becomes better understood and supported by all concerned hunters.

While generally very good compliance was reported for most areas of the province, some hunters may have been disgruntled at being required to contribute to managing the resource.

The 1989 registered deer kill was 27,228 deer, of which 14,367 or 52.8 percent were males. Micmac Indians, hunting under the Conservation Agreement, harvested 179 deer for a total official kill figure of 27,407 deer. Of this number 673 were registered by non-resident license holders.

Although license sale data are not yet available, deer license holders are expected to be numbered in the range of 90,000-95,000, similar to last year's figures. If so, the registered kill will represent a hunter success rate of around 30 percent, which is a very good rate for eastern woodland white-tailed deer hunters.

Table 1 indicates by county the kill by sex for each week (Monday through Saturday) of the season, as well as for the opening Friday and Saturday, when 19.3 percent of the total harvest was taken.

Bowhunters during the October 1-15 bowhunting-only season registered 140 deer—0.5% of the harvest.

The kill by week of the season was:

Week	Kill	Percent of Total	Percent Males
Bow Season	140	0.5	46.4
Opening Fri. & Sat.	5268	19.3	50.1
Week 1	5498	20.2	50.3
Week 2	4091	15.0	56.4
Week 3	4231	15.5	59.9
Week 4	3927	14.4	53.7
Week 5	4073	15.0	47.7

The Non-resident kill by county was:

County	Male	Female	Total
Lunenburg	5	10	15
Queens	28	22	50
Shelburne	4	7	11
Yarmouth	10	11	21
Digby	9	5	14
Annapolis	30	7	37
Kings	11	6	17
Halifax	8	6	14
Hants	13	7	20
Cumberland	38	40	78
Colchester	45	23	68
Pictou	18	22	40
Antigonish	14	14	28
Guysborough	19	7	26
Inverness	98	64	162
Victoria	15	4	19
Cape Breton	12	6	18
Richmond	22	13	35

Table 1. Sex, by week, of the registered deer kill per county, Nova Scotia, 1989.

	Oct. 1-15			Oct. 27-28			Oct. 30-Nov. 4			Nov. 6-11			Nov. 13-18			Nov. 20-25			Nov. 27-Dec. 2			Season		
	Male	Fem.	TO.	Male	Fem.	To.	Male	Fem.	TO.	Male	Fem.	TO.	Male	Fem.	TO.	Male	Fem.	TO.	Male	Fem.	TO	Male	Fem.	TO.
Lunenburg	5	10	15	268	232	500	218	220	438	189	186	375	230	172	402	228	177	405	190	217	407	1328	1214	2542
Queens	3	4	7	122	126	248	135	176	311	152	106	258	146	100	246	98	97	195	68	64	132	724	673	1397
Shelburne	4	3	7	159	147	306	169	144	313	106	96	202	115	78	193	87	73	160	32	52	84	672	593	1265
Yarmouth	5	8	13	177	196	373	155	175	330	115	113	228	86	78	164	76	92	168	45	65	110	659	727	1386
Digby	0	1	1	80	56	136	116	112	228	70	44	114	63	63	126	73	57	130	68	49	117	470	382	852
Annapolis	3	5	8	133	151	284	179	163	342	133	106	239	165	110	275	126	131	257	107	114	221	846	780	1626
Kings	4	7	11	139	113	252	160	145	305	106	96	202	132	72	204	143	124	267	119	116	235	803	673	1476
West	24	38	62	1078	1021	2099	1132	1135	2267	871	747	1618	937	673	1610	831	751	1582	629	677	1306	5502	5042	10,544
Halifax	4	9	13	151	161	312	145	152	297	145	92	237	160	92	252	111	101	212	91	103	194	807	710	1517
Hants	12	11	23	234	247	481	187	212	399	173	124	297	211	148	359	162	146	308	144	180	324	1123	1068	2191
Cumberland	6	1	7	151	186	337	198	182	380	168	127	295	187	105	292	153	162	315	145	218	363	1008	981	1989
Colchester	6	5	11	234	234	468	148	147	295	142	123	265	159	153	312	170	149	319	177	208	385	1036	1019	2055
Pictou	0	3	3	138	152	290	173	185	358	126	126	252	159	82	241	143	121	264	125	146	271	864	815	1679
Antigonish	2	0	2	68	71	139	55	62	117	33	40	73	76	57	133	62	33	95	54	41	95	350	304	654
Guysborough	1	1	2	74	81	155	111	105	216	105	68	173	132	75	207	109	88	197	69	77	146	601	495	1096
East	31	30	61	1050	1132	2182	1017	1045	2062	892	700	1592	1084	712	1796	910	800	1710	805	973	1778	5789	5392	11,181
Inverness	5	3	8	181	153	334	226	196	422	155	104	259	171	121	292	116	84	200	228	204	432	1082	865	1947
Victoria	1	2	3	40	55	95	48	58	106	65	35	100	72	44	116	78	49	127	108	110	218	412	353	765
Cape Breton	3	1	4	118	106	224	169	132	301	154	91	245	144	65	209	99	74	173	89	91	180	776	560	1336
Richmond	1	1	2	173	161	334	176	164	340	170	107	277	127	81	208	74	61	135	85	74	159	806	649	1455
CBI	10	7	17	512	475	987	619	550	1169	544	337	881	514	311	825	367	268	635	510	479	989	3076	2427	5503
Province	65	75	140	2640	2628	5268	2768	2730	5498	2307	1784	4091	2535	1696	4231	2108	1819	3927	1944	2129	4073	14,367	12,861	27,228